

untitled quartet for vibraphone & 3 double basses

Gloria Yehilevsky, October 2025

Please note: this piece was taught and workshopped in person in a rehearsal context, and that is what I would consider to be the score. This text can be viewed as an aid.

STRUCTURE:

hits – all short/muted, timed visually with mallets

final hit goes straight into dense improv

15-sec maximal density

maximal density: as many sounds as possible as close together as possible

transition: downward glissandi and lines to dense open E texture

Aram to cue with Bartok pizz gliss

vibes moment over E texture then transition into rall. notes

Rall: ||: rest A J N :|| morphs to ||: A J rest N :||

Aram arco, James pizz, solo lengths expanding gradually

the rall. will ebb and flow – it is not constant and will not always be felt as 4/4

think of gate opening/closing, cued/activated with vibe notes, as soon as

interrupted stop, use mallet striking & dampening/conducted cutoff for

starting/stopping (Niklas always with vibe E, except final solo)

cue for last time: vibes octave higher (end with Niklas drop D moment)

Niklas solo (stay in drop D to end)

ensemble: nonidiomatic & percussive textures to accompany

Sparse collective improv – progressively sparser to extreme

techniques to remember: occasional unison cross-ensemble striking then silent

dampening & bowing then stopping together... care for *ends* of notes

*** SPARSE CAN ALWAYS GET SPARSER ***

Hits:

The musical score for the 'Hits' section is presented for four instruments: Gloria (vibraphone), James (double bass), Aram (double bass), and Niklas (double bass). Gloria's part is written in treble clef, while the others are in bass clef. The notation consists of short, muted notes (hits) for each player, with some notes beamed together. Vertical dashed lines indicate specific time points. The piece ends with a final hit for each player.